



ECOWAS COMMISSION
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**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)**

COUNTRY: THE GAMBIA

PROJECT: ECOWAS DIRECT INVESTMENT UNDER THE REGIONAL STABILISATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (RSDF) – GAMBIA PILOT PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT: Recruitment of an Independent Audit Firm for the Quality and Financial Audit of the ECOWAS Direct Investment under the Regional Stabilisation and Development Fund (RSDF) – Gambia Pilot Project

1. BACKGROUND

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), through the Regional Stabilisation and Development Fund (RSDF), is supporting the implementation of the Gambia Pilot Project.

ECOWAS has provided additional financing of USD 1.2 million for the Project, which is being implemented in the Greater Banjul Area (GBA), Lower River Region (LRR) and Upper River Region (URR).

A Grant Agreement was signed between the Government of The Gambia and the ECOWAS Commission on 05 June 2023. Subsequently, a Grant Management Agreement (GMA) was entered into between ECOWAS and GAMWORKS Agency, under which GAMWORKS is responsible for project implementation, financial management, procurement, contract administration and reporting.

Article 10 of the GMA requires the Project to be subject to a Quality and Financial Audit in accordance with applicable ECOWAS financial requirements.

GAMWORKS Agency therefore intends to engage an independent and suitably qualified audit firm to undertake the Quality and Financial Audit of the Project for the period 05 June 2023 to 31 December 2026.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objective is to provide an independent assessment of the Project's:

- financial management and use of funds;
- accounting and financial reporting;
- internal controls and risk management;
- procurement and contract management;
- compliance with the GMA and applicable ECOWAS requirements; and
- implementation, monitoring and reporting arrangements.

The audit will also identify significant weaknesses, risks and irregularities and provide practical recommendations for corrective action.

3. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The selected firm will be required to undertake a **Quality and Financial Audit** covering the period **05 June 2023 to 31 December 2026**, representing the entire duration of the Project.

The assignment will include, among other things:

- review of financial records, transactions and supporting documentation;
- assessment of expenditure eligibility, authorisation and use of Project funds;
- review of accounting systems, financial reporting and bank reconciliations;
- assessment of internal controls and risk management;
- review of procurement processes and contract management for works, goods and consulting services;
- assessment of compliance with the GMA, applicable ECOWAS financial and procurement requirements and relevant laws and regulations of The Gambia;
- review of Project implementation, monitoring and reporting arrangements;
- identification of significant risks, weaknesses and irregularities; and
- recommendations for corrective and improvement measures.

4. DELIVERABLES

The selected firm will be required to submit:

- **An inception report and workplan;**
- **a Draft Quality and Financial Audit Report;**
- **a Final Quality and Financial Audit Report** incorporating relevant management comments and responses; and
- **a Management Letter/Statement on Internal Control** identifying significant weaknesses, risks, recommendations and management actions.

5. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Interested firms should demonstrate the following:

1. At least five (5) years of relevant experience in external audit, assurance or related audit services.
2. Successful completion of at least three (3) similar assignments involving financial and/or compliance audits of donor-funded, development, public sector or regional projects.
3. Demonstrated experience in auditing projects financed by international, regional or development institutions.
4. Demonstrated experience in reviewing procurement and contracts involving works, goods and consulting services.
5. Availability of suitably qualified professional staff and adequate technical resources.
6. The firm must be legally registered and authorised to provide audit services in The Gambia or another ECOWAS Member State and be a member of, or affiliated with, a recognised professional accountancy or auditing body.

Experience with ECOWAS or other regional/multilateral institutions will be an advantage.

Firms shall provide documentary evidence supporting their claimed experience, including contracts, completion certificates, certificates of satisfactory performance or other verifiable evidence. Unsupported claims may not be considered.

6. ASSOCIATION OF FIRMS

Firms may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or sub-consultancy arrangement.

In the case of a joint venture, the firms shall clearly indicate the lead firm and the respective roles and responsibilities of each member.

7. ELIGIBILITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The procurement process shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable ECOWAS procurement framework and procedures.

Firms shall comply with applicable provisions relating to eligibility, fraud and corruption, conflict of interest and professional conduct.

Interested firms shall disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest that may affect their ability to undertake the assignment independently and objectively.

8. SELECTION METHOD

The selection of the audit firm will be undertaken in accordance with the applicable ECOWAS procurement framework and procedures.

The selection process will take place in two phases:

Phase 1: Establishing the shortlist based on Expressions of Interest.

Phase 2: Selecting the best firm based on the Technical and Financial Proposals submitted by the shortlisted firms.

The selection procedure shall be **Least Cost Selection (LCS)**.

Only shortlisted firms will be invited to participate in Phase 2.

9. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from:

GAMWORKS Agency
Kanifing Institutional Layout
P.O. Box 2640
Serrekunda, The Gambia
Email: info@gamworks.gm

Interested firms may obtain further information during office hours, Monday to Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

10. SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Interested firms are invited to submit their Expressions of Interest electronically to:

GAMWORKS Agency
Attention: Director General
Kanifing Institutional Layout
P.O. Box 2640
Serrekunda, The Gambia
Email: info@gamworks.gm

Cc: ikkamara@ecowas.int; yderra@ecowas.int;

Deadline for submission: **09 October 2026 at 12:00 noon (Gambia time)**

The email subject shall be:

“EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – RECRUITMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT AUDIT FIRM FOR THE QUALITY AND FINANCIAL AUDIT OF THE ECOWAS DIRECT INVESTMENT UNDER THE RSDF – GAMBIA PILOT PROJECT.”

11. WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language of the assignment and all submissions shall be **English**.

12. GENERAL

GAMWORKS Agency reserves the right to verify information submitted by interested firms.

Only firms meeting the required qualifications and shortlisted in accordance with the applicable procurement procedures will be invited to the next stage of the selection process.

GAMWORKS Agency reserves the right to cancel or modify the procurement process in accordance with the applicable procurement rules.

Director General of GAMWORKS Agency

Kanifing Institutional Layout

P.O. Box 2640

Serrekunda, The Gambia

Email: info@gamworks.gm